

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Kyle K. Kirby

**Serial No.:** 10/673,692

**Filed:** September 29, 2003

**For:** METHOD FOR CREATING  
ELECTRICAL PATHWAYS FOR  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE  
STRUCTURES USING LASER  
MACHINING PROCESSES

**Confirmation No.:** 4168

**Examiner:** M. Estrada

**Group Art Unit:** 2823

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-5665US  
(2002-1291.00/US)

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

February 25, 2008

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Although no Statement of Allowable Subject Matter was set forth by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance mailed November 29, 2007, the Examiner did set forth a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in an Office communication mailed July 26, 2007 with respect to the subject matter of claims 22 through 27. This communication sets forth Applicant's comments, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), to that statement, in which the Examiner indicated that "there is no disclosure in the prior art of ablating one or more

depressions in a surface of the at least one sidewall of the semiconductor substrate to define at least one electrical conductor.”

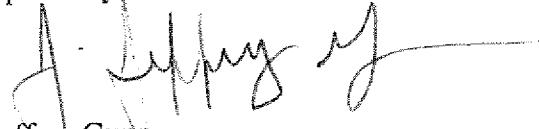
Applicant concurs with the reasons as stated by the Examiner insofar as they comprise a summary, which is exemplary and not limiting. However, the scope of the claims is based on the actual language of the claims and equivalents thereof, and not on a paraphrase or summary of the claim language.

Independent claim 22, as allowed, recites features and methodology in addition to, and in different language than, those described in the Examiner’s statement of July 26, 2007.

Furthermore, the dependent claims depending from claim 22 recite elements in addition to those of independent claim 22, which are also not reflected in the Examiner’s statement of July 26, 2007. Such additional elements, in combination with those of the independent claim from which each claim depends, provide additional reasons for patentability. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as all equivalents thereof.

To the extent that the Examiner’s reasons for allowance as stated are not relevant to, or wholly encompassing of, a particular claim, independent or dependent, Applicants assume that (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e)) the Examiner has determined that the record of the prosecution as a whole of the application makes clear the reasons for allowing those claims. Further, it appears, pursuant to M.P.E.P. 1302.14, that the Examiner’s Statements of Allowable Subject Matter are not intended to encompass all of the reasons for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 25, 2008

JJG/djp:slm

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